Preface

The purpose of Part 2 of the symposium was to continue the discussion on the U.S. situation of cleanup of industrial sites that have become contaminated with chemical wastes. Part 1 of the symposium appeared in the December 1990 issue of this journal (Volume 25, No. 3). Together, Parts 1 and 2 demonstrate the U.S. determination to clean up the environment in which the current and future population must live.

Presentations of the speakers were divided into three sessions. The first topic of the symposium examined the validity of current sampling protocols for volatile organic compounds in soil. The next two speakers continued this focus on volatile chemicals as they described studies that had been carried out to remediate contaminated groundwater in structurally complex aquifers.

The second session was devoted to the problems of industrial sites where chromium wastes had been allowed to accumulate. The two examples of such contamination that were presented by the speakers provided contrasting situations—one being the result of electroplating spillage and the other the result of tannery wastes. Two different decisions for remediation were reached and set into operation.

In the third (and final) session of the symposium, the cleanup of industrial sites that contained heavily contaminated sludges was discussed. The speakers described how two sites were investigated and then remediated, after characterization of the sludge deposits. Other factors affecting the choice of remediation technologies were also integrated into the cleanup strategy.

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